

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Attorney Docket No. 080542/0151**

In re patent application of

Isao MOCHIDA et al.

Serial No. Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

For: HEAT-TREATED ACTIVE CARBONS FOR USE IN DENITRATION, PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING SAME, DENITRATION METHOD USING SAME, AND DENITRATION SYSTEM USING SAME

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims ~~1-5~~ and ~~8-19~~ without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

A' 6. (Amended) A desulfurization process which comprises bringing a gas containing SO<sub>2</sub>, water, and oxygen into contact with a heat-treated active carbon fiber for use in desulfurization [as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4] wherein said heat-treated active carbon fiber has been obtained by heat-treating a starting active carbon in a non-oxidizing atmosphere, wherein said starting active carbon is a starting active carbon fiber.

Sub 10 7. (Amended) A high depth desulfurization process which comprises removing sulfur oxides by using a heat-treated active carbon fiber for use in desulfurization, wherein said heat-treated active carbon fiber has been obtained by heat-treating a starting active carbon in a non-oxidizing atmosphere, wherein said heat-treating comprises heating at a temperature of 600 to 1,200° C in a non-oxidizing atmosphere [as